

1196). Follow this road three miles into Wayne County, where the road name changes to Bentonville Road (S.R. 1205). **At the stop sign, turn left and travel north on U.S. 13** alongside Falling Creek. **After four miles, turn right onto Grantham School Road (S.R. 1006)** in Grantham, which is located between Falling Creek and the Neuse River. This community was settled in the 18th century.

Follow Grantham School Road three miles then turn left onto O'Berry Road (S.R. 1120). Follow this road about 7.5 miles and cross U.S. 117. Continue into the community of Dudley, settled in 1837 and named for Gov. E.B. Dudley. **At this point, the road name changes to Sleepy Creek Road (S.R. 1120).** Dudley is located about 10 miles south of Goldsboro, the Wayne County seat and home of Seymour Johnson Air Force Base.

About 2.5 miles east of Dudley, turn right onto Eagles Nest Road (S.R. 1933) and follow it for about three miles. Cross over Sleepy Creek, which received its name from the Saponi Indians, who thought the waters had medicinal qualities because they would drink the water and fall asleep on the banks of the creek. **Turn left onto Indian Springs Road (S.R. 1744) and continue nearly four miles to N.C. 111.** The rich farmlands in this area are part of the Neuse River Basin. The fertile soil is the result of thousands of years of flooding and changing patterns of the river and creeks that feed nearby. **Take N.C. 111 North one-half mile to Cliffs of the Neuse State Park.**

The park features cliffs that rise 90 feet from the Neuse River and were formed

when a fault shifted thousands of years ago. Over time, erosion exposed the multi-colored sedimentary layers in a formation that enables laurel and other mountain plants to grow here. Nature trails and a museum are available to park visitors.

Travel south along N.C. 111 and turn left onto Indian Springs Road (S.R. 1744) to continue on the byway. Follow Indian Springs Road and turn left onto N.C. 55. One-half mile down N.C. 55, turn left again onto Spring Street (S.R. 1739).

This well-groomed gravel road takes motorists by the Seven Springs Hotel, above the Neuse River. Now a privately owned residence, this hotel was named for the surrounding mineral springs and was once the site of a Victorian resort that operated between 1881 and 1944. **From Spring Street, turn left onto Main Street (S.R. 1731) toward the Neuse River.** A state Civil War marker denotes the site where the Confederate ironclad, the C.S.S. Neuse, was built. This was also the site of an early Civil War skirmish, the Battle of Whitehall, where Union troops damaged the Neuse, which is now housed in Kinston. Seven Springs was originally named Whitehall after the plantation built by William Whitefield, a prominent pre-Revolutionary War settler, in 1741.

Continue to the right on Main Street (S.R. 1731) in Seven Springs, climb the short hill and turn left onto N.C. 55. Follow N.C. 55 for 4.7 miles into Lenoir County. In Strabane, named for an early Irish settler, **turn right after the mill onto Smith Grady Road (S.R. 1152) and follow for 3.5 miles. As the road makes an elbow turn to the left,**